

A NEW FORM OF THE COMMON PIERID
BUTTERFLY *COLIAS ELECTO ELECTO* (L.)

By D. M. KROON, MB., Ch.B.*

Colias electo electo, ♂ form *elysium* ab. nov.

This striking, beautiful colour variant of what is essentially a widespread and common butterfly, was collected along the banks of the Vaal River, near Sasolburg, during a major emergence of the nominate butterfly. This emergence had been preceded by a severe and prolonged drought. Another aberration, *erema* Vari, 1976, also a male, resembles this butterfly up to a point, but is virtually a plain melanic. The main feature of the present insect is a broad violaceous coloration extending outwards from the base of the upperside of both wings for about two-thirds of the wings' expanse. The outer-third is a fuscous-brown. The bright sulphurous androconial patches on the upperside of the hindwings contrast strongly with the abnormal coloration of the specimen. The underside also differs in appearance from that of normal specimens. The main portion of the forewings is fuscous coloured, from the bases; and there is a narrow costal border of dull yellow, and a broad apical and subapical area of the same colour, which also constitutes the entire ground-colour of the underside of the hindwings. Length of forewing: 21mm. The butterfly will be presented to the Transvaal Museum.

Holotype: Vaal River, Sasolburg, O.F.S., South Africa, 9.10.83. D. M. Kroon (Transvaal Museum Reg. No. 1072).

I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the kindness shown by Mr. C. G. Dickson, who generously insisted that this specimen be figured on a coloured plate together with other material he has dealt with (see Plate I, figs. 5, 6).

*P.O. Box 572, Sasolburg, O. F. S., South Africa 9870.

SYNANTHEDON ANTHRACINIFORMIS ESP.: ORANGE-TAILED CLEARWING IN BEDFORDSHIRE. — In June 1984, I successfully reared three specimens of *S. anthraciniformis* from sections of the Wayfaring Tree gathered in South Bedfordshire during the previous winter. Four large parasitic wasps, which are yet to be identified were also reared. These clearwings are apparently the first authenticated Bedfordshire specimens for nearly 80 years. — K. F. WEBB, 2 Kingsdown Avenue, Luton, Beds LU2 7BU.

CORRECTION. — In my review of Cleevely's *World Palaeontological Collections* (*Ent. Rec.*, 96: 292, line 28), for "... relates to fossil insects," read: "... relates to collections of fossil insects,". — J.M.C.-H.